

14 July 2016

**Statement by H.E. Mr. Mogens Lykketoft,
President of the 70th Session of the General Assembly,
At the closing of the informal dialogue with the candidates for
Secretary-General**

I would like to thank Madame Figueres for her engagement here today and for responding so openly to the many questions posed by the membership.

Like the other candidates, she too has done herself proud and deserves our sincere appreciation.

I would also like to thank you, the membership, for your continued constructive engagement in these dialogues.

As I have said previously, I stand ready to organize further informal dialogues for any candidates that have yet to come forward.

In the meantime, as you know, the Security Council will hold its first straw poll next Thursday.

As indicated in my letter to the membership dated 7 July, I will continue to engage with the President of the Security Council so as to ensure that the full membership is kept informed of the process of consideration in the Council.

In my view, this should include communication of the results of the straw polls in the same vein as will be communicated to the candidates.

I see this as an important continuation of the transparency and inclusivity that has defined this new process to date.

Indeed, I do not think this Assembly wants those features in any way diminished as we move into the most critical phase of this process.

Thank you.